

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF OREGON  
EUGENE DIVISION

**STEVEN CURTIS LEECH,**

Petitioner,

v.

No. 6:19-cv-01769-SB

**BRANDON KELLY,** Superintendent,  
Oregon State Penitentiary,

OPINION AND ORDER

Respondent.

**MOSMAN, J.,**

On April 9, 2021, Magistrate Judge Stacie F. Beckerman issued her Findings and Recommendation (F. & R.) [ECF 30]. Judge Beckerman recommended that I dismiss the Amended Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus [ECF 12] and decline to issue a certificate of appealability. Petitioner Steven Curtis Leech filed timely objections. Upon review, I agree with Judge Beckerman.

**DISCUSSION**

The magistrate judge makes only recommendations to the court, to which any party may file written objections. The court is not bound by the recommendations of the magistrate judge, but retains responsibility for making the final determination. The court is generally required to make a de novo determination regarding those portions of the report or specified findings or recommendation as to which an objection is made. 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1)(C). However, the court

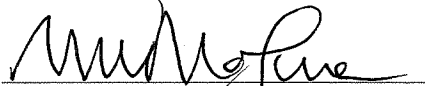
is not required to review, de novo or under any other standard, the factual or legal conclusions of the magistrate judge as to those portions of the F. & R. to which no objections are addressed. *See Thomas v. Arn*, 474 U.S. 140, 149 (1985); *United States v. Reyna-Tapia*, 328 F.3d 1114, 1121 (9th Cir. 2003). While the level of scrutiny under which I am required to review the F. & R. depends on whether or not objections have been filed, in either case, I am free to accept, reject, or modify any part of the F. & R. 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1)(C).

### CONCLUSION

Upon review, I agree with Judge Beckerman's findings and recommendation, and I ADOPT the F. & R. [ECF 30] as my own opinion. I DISMISS the Amended Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus [ECF 12] with prejudice. I decline to issue a certificate of appealability because Petitioner has not made a substantial showing of the denial of a constitutional right pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2253(c)(2).

IT IS SO ORDERED.

DATED this 1<sup>st</sup> day of June, 2021.

  
MICHAEL W. MOSMAN  
United States District Judge